

DRAWINGS

Amend FIG. 3 of the Application as shown in the attached marked-up drawing. A replacement sheet for the amended drawing is also attached.

REMARKS

Claims 2-3, and 5-18 were pending when last examined. With this Response, Applicants have amended claims 2, 9, and 16. All pending claims are shown in the detailed listing above.

Drawings

The Examiner objected to the drawings. According to the Examiner, “[I]t is unclear in Fig. 1A – Fig. 1D whether voltage feedback or the rate of change of voltage with respect to time is feedback. In Fig. 3 ‘bh’ and ‘%8’ are not defined. Furthermore, signals A2, B2, C2 and D2 are not properly defined.”

Applicants traverse the objection to FIGS. 1A-1D. The figures show “Feed back voltage 112” at a terminal “FB.” There is nothing unclear about such figures. Thus, the objection to FIGS. 1A-1D should be withdrawn.

Applicants have amended FIG. 3 to remove the “%8” from the drawing. The remainder of the signals—bh, A2, B2, C2, and D2—would be understood to one of skill in the art in the context of FIG. 3. Thus, the objection to FIG. 3 should be withdrawn.

Specification

Applicants have amended the specification at paragraph [0039] to correct a minor typographical error.

Claim Objections

Claim 2 stands objected to because of alleged informalities. The Examiner states, “The issuance of pulses is blocked, not retarded; the comparator does not operate in a cyclical fashion; the issuance of pulses is blanked by a logic gate, not by the comparator.”

Applicants have amended claim 2, and as such, respectfully request that the objection to this claim be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 112

Claims 2 and 9 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement.

Applicants have amended claims 2 and 9 in response. Thus, the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, should now be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

Claim 2 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Duffy (US 2002/0171985) in view of Reilly (US 6,593,864).

Applicants have amended claim 2 pursuant to the Examiner's indication of allowability, as discussed below. As such, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that "Claims 2, 9 and 16 would be allowable if worded as in claim 7 to claim the frequency of alteration of the duty cycle was modified in response to a change in the load."

Applicants have amended claims 2, 9, and 16 pursuant to the Examiner's suggestion. As such, these claims should now be in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request that the pending claims be allowed and the case passed to issue. Should the Examiner wish to discuss the Application, it is requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned at (415) 772-7428.

Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

9/26/06

Date

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Signature

Respectfully submitted,

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Annotated Marked-Up Drawing

